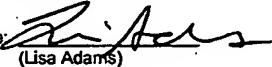


1/25/2008

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: 12/13/07

Signature: 
(Lisa Adams)

Docket No.: 101896-283 (DEP5154USCIP)
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Sean P. Selover et al.

Application No.: 10/711,704

Confirmation No.: 5703

Filed: September 30, 2004

Art Unit: 3733

For: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR MINIMALLY
INVASIVE SPINAL FIXATION ELEMENT
PLACEMENT

Examiner: J. L. Swiger

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Dear Sir:

Applicants submit the following remarks in response to the final Office Action dated October 22, 2007.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.

For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the Pending Claims is attached hereto. No amendments are made.